



Minutes CK Food Policy Council

Wednesday January 8th 2020 - 5:30-7:30 pm

Attendance: Lyndsay Davidson, Corraine Wray, Derwyn Armstrong, Carmen McGregor, Allan Davies, Noreen Blake, Dina Edwards, Ron Carnahan, Gabriel Clark (Environmental Planner with the Municipality of Chatham-Kent), Carole Presley, Anthony Jas, David Bakker, Megan Schultz, Rick Bradley, Mike Buis

Regrets: Karen Holland, Rick Kucera, Sheri Grey, Chris Sherman, David Colby.

- 1.0 Welcome and introduction of new members,
- 2.0 Approval of Agenda – Rick and Noreen, all in favour
- 3.0 Approval of Minutes – March 13th, 2019, David B, Dina, all in favour

4.0 Working Groups

- 4.1 Food Access and Availability – Gleaning project had a slower year. We trained 12 new volunteers this year, had 7 new agencies come accept the produce and had 2 new farms join in. For the first time we harvested pumpkins that went to schools and community groups. Plans are to develop an online training for 2020 (it has been started and just needs some finishing!) and hopefully with better weather, we will get more producers to participate again.
- 4.2 Food skills – continuing to work on our “Make and Take” Workshop for this year to launch at the Ridgetown Senior Centre.

5.0 Old Business

- 5.1 Food Strategy Update – our primer document is pretty much done and will be reviewed by Scribeni for finishing. This will be a document that gives the context of Chatham-Kent based on the input from many of our key stakeholders and partners. We spent much of November and December working in smaller groups developing the draft Recommendations and Actions that would help to drive the Food Strategy Forward. Next steps will be to finalize the recommendations and actions and then take it out to the community for consultation. The hope is to have the strategy complete for the end of the spring.
- 5.2 Marketing Plan, Social Media Update – at this time we have 147 people following our Facebook page and 215 people following our Instagram page. Our most liked posts were usually related to our gleans and the Buy Local Buy Fresh Launch Market in July.
- 5.3 Update on Modernization of Public Health - http://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/phehs_consultations/
Jim Pine has been appointed by the Province as Special Advisor on Public Health and Emergency Services Consultations. Mr. Pine is the Chief Administrator Officer of the County of Hastings and a former member of the board of directors of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario. He will facilitate the ministry consultations on the modernization of Public Health.
The Ministry has since released a discussion paper to guide these consultations and a team of individuals will be reaching out to stakeholders directly to conduct in-person consultations across the province beginning Nov/Dec in Northern Ontario. They are currently planning meetings in the remaining regions and will endeavour to give public health units and other stakeholders as much notice as possible of the consultation(s) in their area. Near the end of January the team will present its findings at the Rural Ontario Municipal Association conference to validate ‘what was heard’. Responses to the discussion paper are also being collected through an online survey on the Ministry’s website until February 10th, and they are also accepting written submissions.

After the first phase is completed the team will draft recommendations and reach out again (the method has not been determined) in early Spring to get feedback. Following that consultation period, which is expected

to be shorter, the recommendations will be formally provided to the provincial government. At the Board of Health meeting next week, there will be a discussion for local stakeholders. Invitations will go out later this week for agencies that are participating.

Other notes;

- Emergency Services and Public Health units will not be merged together and emergency services will not be privatized.
- Changes to Public Health Ontario will be part of the consultation.
- The team is committed to meeting with unions and will look at how they may be able to meet with local unions.
- There will be targeted consultations with Indigenous communities and the Francophone communities.
- The team is not able to provide a timeline for the implementation of the recommendations that come out of the consultations at this point because they do not know what will be implemented. This consultation is a 're-set' and no decisions have been pre-determined.

6.0 New Business

- 6.1 Climate Change Action Plan – Gabriel Clarke – presentation provided (see attached). Motion by Carmen and seconded by Noreen to support the planning group with at least one member. All in favour. If anyone is interested in participating in the planning group, please let Lyndsay know.
- 6.2 Poverty Strategy Update – Phillip Mock – Phil was unable to attend but sent in his update.
 - 1) Back in September/October, we hosted community BBQs and town hall discussions to learn what poverty was like from people in our community. A wealth of information was shared with us. We heard from over 350 people in a three week span, got to break bread with a lot of people who care across Chatham-Kent, and learned that there are so many facets to poverty that we don't usually consider. The benefit of travelling across Chatham-Kent was the ability to hear from different communities. Each community had their own ideas of what poverty looks like and how to reduce it. We learned about housing issues, transportation challenges, employment and education barriers, isolation, food insecurity, clothing insecurity, stigma, service navigation and access, disabilities, telecommunications and so much more.
 - 2) We knew we heard so much but not enough. We needed to hear more from people who are homeless, people of colour, marginalized communities, seniors, and youth. So we entered into a new round of engagement by placing cards with a short survey on the back for people to share their thoughts and take their time to fill out the cards. We offered a chance to win 1 of 5 \$100 gift cards as a thank you for sharing their thoughts.
 - 3) We're going to compile this information into a listening report, and also produce a data report, that will outline what we heard and what the data says. From there, we will then produce a draft plan based on analyzing the two reports. We're then going to return to the community with a draft, and ask them what they think about all the ideas for action over the next 5 years. Once we get some feedback, we'll finalize it, and launch in late March, early April of 2020.
 - 4) We're already working hard to tackle some housing and transportation projects in our community with two task forces built of 7-10 People who are knowledgeable about the specific subject, passionate, and ready to work and turn out quick win project over a 8-12 month period. Both groups are on track, with the housing group looking to do an education campaign about housing rights, and start supporting nonprofits and co-op property managers to build more affordable housing. The transportation group is looking at bringing awareness to all the transit options in our community through an education campaign, with ideas growing on how to address gaps in rural transit in CK.
 - 5) The food strategy for CK in our opinion is a leader in the food security/access area, as it addresses it clearly and sustainably especially in the area of consumption and selling. We're working closely with Lyndsay and her team to support their plan coming to fruition, and our focus on food security would 1) focus on supporting the goals of the food strategy and 2) enhance the work they will be doing by tag-teaming on

projects we can do together around food security and access in CK. In attending the meetings hosted by Lyndsay for the creation of the plan, it is clear that they are on an amazing track with this strategy, and the CK Prosperity Roundtable is a supporter of the directions of the plan to address food access as part of its goals.

7.0 Update/sharing on happenings in Chatham-Kent – Lyndsay had congratulations to three of our members – Derwyn, Mike and Dina! They were recognized at the 2019 Volunteer Service Awards in November for the support of Community Gardens and the CK Food Policy Council.

8.0 Adjournment – Rick and Carole, all in favour.

Next Meeting Dates:

Individual Committee Meetings:

Food Skills – 2nd Tuesday of the month – 5-7 pm – Health Unit, Room 302

Food Access and Availability – 3rd Tuesday of the month - 3-5 pm – Health Unit, 435 Grand Ave West, Room 302 (note the time change)

Large Group Meeting: March 11th, 2020, United Way Office